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Fired federal prosecutor Maurene Comey sues Trump administration to get her job back

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Former federal prosecutor Maurene Comey sued the U.S. government Monday to get her job back, saying her firing was for political reasons and was unconstitutional.

Her lawsuit in Manhattan federal court blamed the firing on the fact that her father is James Comey, a former F.B.I. director, "or because of her perceived political affiliation and beliefs, or both."

Comey is seeking to be reinstated and a declaration that her firing was unlawful and a violation of the Constitution's "Separation of Powers" clause.

"Defendants have not provided any explanation whatsoever for terminating Ms. Comey. In truth, there is no legitimate explanation," the lawsuit said.

Comey, who successfully prosecuted hundreds of cases since becoming an assistant U.S. attorney in 2015, was notified of her dismissal in an email with an attachment saying she was being fired "(p)ursuant to Article II of the United States Constitution and the laws of the United States," the lawsuit said.

James Comey was fired



This photo combination shows, from left, former FBI Director James Comey in Washington, Dec. 7, 2018, President Donald Trump at Morristown Airport, Sept. 14, 2025, in Morristown, N.J., and Assistant U.S. Attorney Maurene Comey in New York, July 8, 2019.

Associated Press

as FBI director by President Donald Trump in 2017. The lawsuit noted he has since written a memoir critical of Trump and has publicly criticized Trump and his administration, including a May social media post that Trump and others perceived as threatening.

The lawsuit said Maurene Comey's July firing came the day after her supervisors asked her to lead a major public corruption case and three months after she'd received her latest "Outstanding" review.

It also followed a several-week-long campaign by right-wing internet personality Laura Loomer to get

Comey fired.

"The politically motivated termination of Ms. Comey ostensibly under 'Article II of the Constitution' upends bedrock principles of our democracy and justice system," the lawsuit said. "Assistant United States Attorneys like Ms. Comey must do their jobs without fearing or favoring any political party or perspective, guided solely by the law, the facts, and the pursuit of justice."

Named as defendants in the lawsuit were, among others, the Justice Department, the Executive Office of the President, U.S. Attorney General Pamela

Bondi, the Office of Personnel Management and the United States.

The Justice Department declined through a spokesperson to comment.

Comey's July 16 firing came amid a spate of dismissals of prosecutors by the Justice Department without explanation, raising alarm that civil service protections meant to prevent terminations for political reasons were being overlooked.

Comey's lawsuit noted that the Civil Service Reform Act provides protections governing how and why she could be terminated, including specific prohibi-

tions against termination for discriminatory reasons such as political affiliation.

"Her termination violated every one of those protections," the lawsuit said.

It said she had suffered adverse harmful effects, including lost or jeopardized employment and financial opportunities, along with reputational harm.

If Comey applies for jobs, even the most rudimentary background check may come across inaccurate and false information from the defendants "that will adversely impact her reputation and chances for additional employment opportunities," the lawsuit said.

The Justice Department also has fired some prosecutors who worked on cases that have provoked Trump's ire, including some who handled U.S. Capitol riot cases and lawyers and support staff who worked on special counsel Jack Smith's prosecutions of Trump.

She became a rising star in her office for her work on the case against financier Jeffrey Epstein and his one-time girlfriend, British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell, and the recent prosecution of music mogul Sean "Diddy" Combs. □

Judge rules Trump administration illegally fired thousands of probationary workers

By **JANIE HAR**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Trump administration's central human resources office acted illegally when it directed the mass firings of probationary workers as part of President Donald Trump's efforts to downsize the federal workforce, a judge has ruled.

U.S. District Judge William Alsup of San Francisco said Friday in awarding judgment to a coalition of labor unions and nonprofits that the U.S. Office of Personnel Management "unlawfully exceeded its own powers and usurped and exercised

powers reserved by Congress to each individual"

federal agency to hire and fire its own workers.



The Theodore Roosevelt Building, location of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, is pictured, Feb. 13, 2024, in Washington. **Associated Press**

He said the government "disagrees but does not persuade" in its defense that the office did not direct employment decisions, but merely offered guidance to other agencies.

"Judge Alsup's decision makes clear that thousands of probationary workers were wrongfully fired, exposes the sham record the government relied upon, and requires the government to tell the wrongly terminated employees that OPM's reasoning for firing them was false," said Everett Kelley, national president of the American Federation of Government

Employees, in a statement. The Office of Personnel Management did not immediately respond Monday to an email seeking comment.

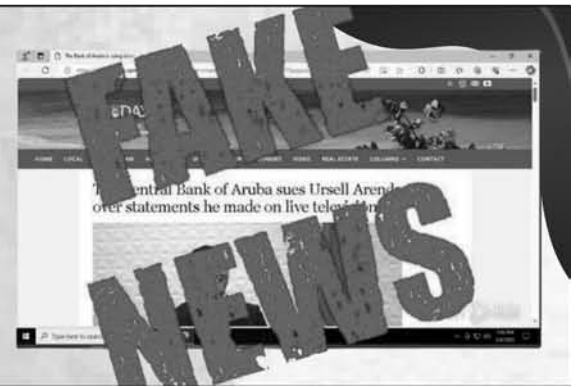
More than 25,000 probationary workers were terminated soon after Trump took office in January, according to legal declarations from departments gathered as part of the lawsuit.

Alsup in March ordered the reinstatement of probationary workers, saying OPM had likely acted unlawfully in ordering the terminations of workers at other agencies. □

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JD Vance says national unity is impossible with those celebrating Charlie Kirk's killing

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President JD Vance said Monday while hosting Charlie Kirk's radio show that he is "desperate" for national unity after the conservative political activist's killing but that finding common ground with people who celebrated the assassination of his friend is impossible.

The Republican vice president filled in as host of "The Charlie Kirk Show" from his ceremonial office in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building next to the White House. The livestream of the two-hour program was broadcast in the White House press briefing room and featured a series of appearances by White House and administration officials who knew the 31-year-old Kirk.

Vance, who transported Kirk's body home from Utah to Arizona aboard Air Force Two last week, opened by



Vice President JD Vance hosts an episode of "The Charlie Kirk Show" at the White House, following the assassination of the show's namesake, Monday, Sept. 15, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

saying he was "filling in for somebody who cannot be filled in for, but I'll do my best." He recounted his conversations with Kirk's widow, Erika, and her remembrances of him as a kind, loving husband.

In his closing remarks, Vance criticized what he said were lies about Kirk that he blamed for the killing. He also promised that the Trump administration will act to stop anyone who would kill another person

because of their words.

"I'm desperate for our country to be united in condemnation of the actions and the ideas that killed my friend," Vance said on the program. "I want it so badly that I will tell you a

difficult truth. We can only have it with people who acknowledge that political violence is unacceptable." Vance's self-described "moonlighting" as substitute radio host, as well as the broadcasting of the program from the White House complex, served as a powerful reminder of Kirk's close relationship with the Trump-Vance team and the valuable role Kirk's operation boosting youth voter turnout played on the campaign.

The Republican vice president, 41, was especially close to Kirk, founder of Turning Point USA, one of the nation's largest political organizations with chapters on high school and college campuses.

The two began a friendship nearly a decade ago, and Kirk advocated for Vance to be Republican Donald Trump's choice for vice president last year. Kirk also was someone who had Trump's ear. □

Trump deploys National Guard to Memphis, calling it a 'replica' of his crackdown on Washington

By WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Monday signed an order sending the National Guard into Memphis to combat crime, constituting his latest test of the limits of presidential power by using military force in American cities.

Trump made the announcement with Republican Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee visiting the Oval Office, calling what's coming a "replica of our extraordinarily successful efforts" in Washington.

That was a reference to last month, when the president deployed National Guard troops to the nation's capital and federalized the city's police force in a crackdown he has since argued reduced crime.

Trump said that, in addition to troops, the push in Memphis would involve officials

from various federal agencies, including the FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S. Marshall's service: "We're sending in the big force now."

Shortly before Trump's announcement, the White House said on social media that the Memphis total crime rate was higher than the national average and suggested that the rate had increased since last year, bucking national trends.

That's despite Memphis police recently reporting decreases across every major crime category in the first eight months of 2025 compared to the same period in previous years. Overall crime hit a 25-year low, while murder hit a six-year low, police said. Despite the overall decrease, Memphis has dealt with stubborn gun violence problems for years. □



President Donald Trump speaks with reporters before boarding Air Force One at Morristown Airport, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, in Morristown, N.J.

Associated Press

Young activists won a landmark state climate trial. Now they're challenging Trump's orders

By **MATTHEW BROWN**
Associated Press

Billings, Mont. (AP) — Young climate activists and their attorneys who won a landmark global warming trial against the state of Montana are trying to convince a federal judge to block President Donald Trump's executive orders promoting fossil fuels.

During a two-day hearing starting Tuesday in Missoula, Montana, the activists and their experts plan to describe Trump's actions to boost drilling and mining and discourage renewable energy as a growing danger to children and the planet. They say the Republican's stoking of global warming violates their constitutional rights.

A victory for the activists would have much broader implications than their 2023 win, where a state court faulted officials for permitting oil, gas and coal projects without regard for global warming.

But legal experts say the young activists and their lawyers from the environmental group Our Children's Trust face longer odds in federal court. The Montana case hinged on a provision in the state constitution declaring



Plaintiffs in a climate lawsuit brought by children and young adults in Montana listen to arguments during a May 12, 2023, court hearing in Helena, Mont.

people have a "right to a clean and healthful environment." That language is absent from the U.S. Constitution.

"Federal law doesn't really offer anything to really work with for these groups," said David Dana, a professor at Northwestern University Law School in Chicago. Attorneys for the U.S. Department of Justice and 19 states plus Guam want Judge Dana Christensen to dismiss the case.

A previous federal climate lawsuit in Oregon from Our Children's Trust went on for a decade and ended in a denial this year from the U.S. Supreme Court.

Our Children's Trust attorney Andrea Rodgers acknowledged the Montana litigation faces challenges. But she said the Constitution contains protections for life and liberty that cannot be ignored.

"We're asking the Court to apply traditional laws with

respect to what constitutes the right to life and the right for liberty," Rodgers said.

A 19-year-old from California plans to testify to Christensen about the harms of wildfire smoke. A 17-year-old from Montana is slated to speak about Trump's actions frustrating her attempts to get electric buses for her school. And a 20-year-old Oregon woman going to school in Florida will talk about how Trump's plans could result

in worse hurricanes and wildfires.

"No matter where I live, I cannot escape extreme climate events resulting from fossil fuel pollution," Avery McRae, the student from Oregon, said in a declaration to the court.

The 22 plaintiffs include youths and young adults from Montana and several other states. Only the Montana plaintiffs were involved in the 2023 trial.

It's a similar playbook as the 2023 trial. Young plaintiffs spent days on the witness stand describing how worsening fires foul the air they breathe, while drought and decreased snowpack deplete rivers that sustain farming, fish, wildlife and recreation.

Carbon dioxide, which is released when fossil fuels are burned, traps heat in the atmosphere and is largely responsible for the warming of the climate.

The federal government and states do not plan to call any witnesses.

Amanda Braynack, a spokesperson for Montana Attorney General Austin Knudsen, said the states were trying to prevent the litigants from "destroying our country's energy security." □

Associated Press

Parking spots used as colorful protest against Florida crackdown on rainbow crosswalks

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — An Orlando restaurateur on Monday turned over 49 parking spots outside her eatery for artists to color as a protest against a state



Artists paint parking spaces at a local restaurant to support the LGBTQ+ community and to protest state mandates on crosswalk art Monday, Sept. 15, 2025, in Orlando, Fla.

Associated Press

mandate removing rainbow-colored crosswalks and other art on Florida streets, including one outside the LGBTQ-friendly nightclub where 49 people were killed in 2016.

Se7en Bites owner Trina Gregory said she received 1,000 applications for the event dubbed "Parking Space for Pride A Rainbow Connection," after she put out word that the parking spaces would be open for coloring as a salute to diversity and artistic expression. The parking spots are on private property and not under government control.

The idea came in response to the administration of Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis' enforcement of a state code which prohibits "surface art" on crosswalks, sidewalks, intersections, travel lanes or shoulders. A memo issued by the Florida Department of Transportation this summer prohibited "surface art" associated with "social, political or ideological messages or images and does not serve the purpose of traffic control." It warned that transportation funds could be held withheld if municipalities failed to comply.

Many of the painted crosswalks celebrate historically marginalized groups such

as the LGBTQ+ and Black communities. Last month in the middle of the night, state transportation workers painted over the rainbow-colored crosswalk outside the LGBTQ-friendly Pulse nightclub in Orlando where 49 patrons were massacred in what was the worst mass shooting in the U.S. at the time. Since then, protesters have repeatedly colored in the crosswalk with chalk. "Art has always been a form of resistance and healing," Gregory said. "If they want to erase symbols of pride and acceptance, then we'll create even more of them." □

Spanish prime minister wants Israel banned from sports events after chaos at cycling race

By TALES AZZONI

AP Sports Writer

MADRID (AP) — Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez on Monday called for Israel to be banned from sports events after pro-Palestinian activists disrupted the end of the Spanish Vuelta cycling race in chaotic scenes in Madrid.

Israel's foreign minister responded by calling Sánchez an "antisemite and a liar."

Tensions between the countries have escalated in recent weeks as Spain's left-wing government expressed support for protesters who interrupted several stages of the Vuelta, including Sunday's final stage in Madrid, because an Israeli team was taking part. Speaking to members of his Socialist Party, Sánchez said Israel, just like Russia, should not be allowed to compete in international sports because of its military campaign in Gaza.

"The sports organizations should consider whether it's ethical for Israel to keep participating in international competitions. Why expel Russia after the invasion of Ukraine and not expel Israel after the invasion of Gaza?" Sánchez said. "Until the barbarity ends, neither Russia nor Israel should be in any international



Protesters block the road in an attempt to disrupt the twenty-first stage of the Spanish cycling race La Vuelta, from Alalpardo to Madrid, Spain, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025.

Associated Press

competition."

Sánchez spoke a day after the Vuelta finale was cut short when pro-Palestinian protesters opposing the participation of Israeli team Israel Premier Tech threw barriers onto the road and clashed with police near the finish line. Authorities said two people were arrested and 22 injured, none of them seriously.

The Spanish government had already expressed sympathy with the protesters and suggested the

Israel Premier Tech team should have withdrawn from the three-week-long race that became a diplomatic battleground. The team removed its name from its uniforms but remained in the race to the end.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar criticized Sánchez with a post on X that included a video link to the Spanish leader's speech on Monday.

"An antisemite and a liar," Saar wrote. "Did Israel in-

vade Gaza on Oct. 7th or did the Hamas terror state invade Israel and commit the worst massacre against the Jews since the Holocaust?"

The war in Gaza began when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 251. There are 48 hostages remaining in Gaza and Israel believes 20 are still alive. Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed more than

67,000 Palestinians according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't say how many were civilians or combatants. The offensive has displaced most of Gaza's 2 million people, caused widespread destruction and severe hunger.

As the war has ground on, Israel has grown increasingly isolated, with Spain at the forefront of a growing list of European countries increasingly critical of Israel due to the heavy civilian toll. Countries including the U.K. and France have said they plan on recognizing a Palestinian state, and the European Commission president has called for scaling back Europe's trade ties with Israel.

Europe remains divided on its stance toward Israel, and its limited sanctions and condemnations so far have had little effect.

Madrid's conservative mayor, José Luis Martínez-Almeida, also criticized Sánchez and described Sunday's events as a sad day for the Spanish capital. Danish rider Jonas Vingegaard, who was leading the overall classification going into the final stage, was declared the winner of the Vuelta but the customary podium ceremony was canceled. □

Gang attack on armored vehicle in Haiti leaves 2 police officers injured and 1 driver dead

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Gunmen attacked an armored vehicle in a community near Haiti's capital, leaving two police officers injured and one driver dead, authorities said Monday.

The attack occurred over the weekend in the once peaceful farming community of Kenscoff, which heavily armed gangs have repeatedly raided in recent months.

Police said in a statement that gunmen threw Molotov cocktails into the armored vehicle, which then overturned into a ravine.

Haitian police have been battling gangs alongside Kenyan police leading a U.N.-backed mission that began more than a year ago. The attack comes days after gangs razed a small fishing town north of Port-au-Prince, killing at least 40 people, including women and children, according to local officials.

U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres condemned that attack on Saturday, saying that he was "alarmed by the levels of violence rocking Haiti" as he urged Haitian authorities "to ensure that per-

petrators of these and all other human rights abuses and violations are brought to justice."

He also called on the international community to help the struggling multinational force with the logistics, personnel and funding it requires.

On Monday, Haiti's government announced that it had coordinated an urgent meeting with high-ranking police officials and ordered the deployment of specialized units to towns including Labodri, Arcadia and Cabaret following the massacre. □



Police officers patrol the area near the Saint-Helene orphanage in the Kenscoff neighborhood of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Aug. 4, 2025.

Associated Press

Japan and South Korea show enduring rift over sexual slavery issue in letters to UN

By KIM TONG-HYUNG

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— Japan's government on Monday defended its stance on wartime sexual slavery and described South Korean court rulings ordering Japanese compensation as violations of international law, after U.N. investigators criticized Tokyo for failing to ensure truth-finding and reparations for the victims.

In its own response to U.N. human rights rapporteurs, South Korea called on Japan to "squarely face up to our painful history" and cited how Tokyo's refusal to comply with court orders have denied the victims payment. The statements underscored how the two Asian U.S. allies still hold key differences on the issue, even as they pause their on-and-off disputes over historical grievances to stabilize bilateral relations.

A group of U.N. investigators in July sent letters to Japan and South Korea as well as China, the Philippines, Indonesia, the Netherlands and East Timor where sexual slavery victims also come from over



Former comfort woman, Lee Yong-soo, left, who was forced to serve for the Japanese troops as a sex slave during World War II, attends a rally demanding full compensation and an apology for wartime sex slaves from Japanese government near the Japanese Embassy in Seoul, South Korea, on Aug. 13, 2025.

Associated Press

what they described as the countries' failures to "ensure access to truth, justice, remedy, and reparations for survivors." The governments were given 60 days to respond, but only the responses from Japan and South Korea were posted on a U.N. website on Monday.

U.N. investigators had asked Japan to address various concerns, including

claims that its past investigations and reparations regarding sexual slavery were insufficient, that it continues to evade state and legal responsibility, and its refusal to comply with three South Korean court rulings from 2021 to 2025 ordering compensation for victims.

Japan responded by reiterating its long-standing position that all compensation matters with South Korea

over sexual slavery victims were settled by past agreements, including the 1965 treaty normalizing relations and a separate 2015 deal aimed at resolving their differences on the issue.

The Japanese statement, issued by its permanent mission in Geneva, claimed that the recent Korean court rulings violated the principle of state immunity in such lawsuits and urged

Seoul to "take appropriate measures to remedy its breaches of international law as a country."

Japan in past years has strongly rejected South Korean court rulings ordering the government in Tokyo and Japanese companies to provide reparations to Korean victims of sexual slavery and also wartime forced labor, another legacy of Japan's brutal colonial rule of Korea before the end of World War II. Japan says the rulings violate its sovereign immunity and go against the 1965 treaty. South Korean courts contend that sovereign immunity does not protect foreign states from accountability for crimes against humanity or wrongful acts committed on South Korea's territory against its nationals.

Following Japan's refusal to comply with the court orders, some South Korean experts and survivors, including Lee Yong-soo, have called on Tokyo and Seoul to jointly refer their sexual slavery disputes to U.N.'s International Court of Justice, but no action yet has been taken. □

Paraguay believes fugitive ex-Mexican state security chief wanted to start a criminal cell

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Authorities in Paraguay said Monday they believe a former state security chief

from Mexico arrested there over the weekend was planning to establish a criminal network in the

South American nation. Paraguay's National Anti-drug Secretary Jalil Rachid said Hernán Bermúdez had fled from Mexico to Panama then Brazil and from there entered Paraguay illegally. He was hiding out and authorities believe was in contact with Mexico's powerful Jalisco New Generation Cartel, Rachid said. Authorities apparently found Bermúdez after he used a credit card. "We found him through certain financial transactions that he made here in Paraguay," Rachid said.

Paraguay President Santiago Peña posted a video to X that showed heavily armed police in camouflage battering down the door to a luxurious home

and holding Bermúdez face down on the floor at gunpoint. It was early Saturday there and late Friday night in Mexico.

Bermúdez's nephew was arrested in Paraguay a couple months earlier. Bermúdez's wife had also entered the country illegally, but legalized her status Aug. 27, Rachid said. Bermúdez is sought in Mexico for allegedly running a local criminal organization called "La Barredora" or "The Sweeper," in the Gulf coast state of Tabasco while he was the state's top security official. Mexican authorities say Bermúdez had been under investigation since last year and that a warrant for his arrest was issued in February.

He is facing charges in Mexico of criminal association, extortion and kidnapping. Interpol issued an alert for his arrest in July.

Rachid said that Bermúdez accepted extradition, but not the abbreviated form, and would remain jailed while that process plays out. The case has shaken the highest levels of government in Mexico, because Bermúdez was the security chief of then-Tabasco Gov. Adán Augusto López, a close ally and interior secretary of former President Andrés Manuel López Obrador. López even competed for the governing party's presidential nomination against current President Claudia Sheinbaum. □



Paraguay's Anti-Drugs Secretary Jalil Rachid gives a news conference about the arrest of Mexico's alleged leader of "La Barredora" cartel, Hernan Bermudez Requena, whose image is on the screen, in Asuncion, Paraguay, Monday, Sept. 15, 2025. Bermudez was arrested in Paraguay on Sept. 12.

Associated Press

The Royal Netherlands Army trains technical skills in Aruba and Curaçao during the Caribbean Engineer exercise

ORANJESTAD – For the next three weeks, military engineers will train in Curaçao and Aruba. Over 100 Dutch military personnel will participate in the annual Caribbean Engineer exercise. During the exercise, they will carry out work on defense sites and help build classrooms for the Fundashon Futuro Brillante.

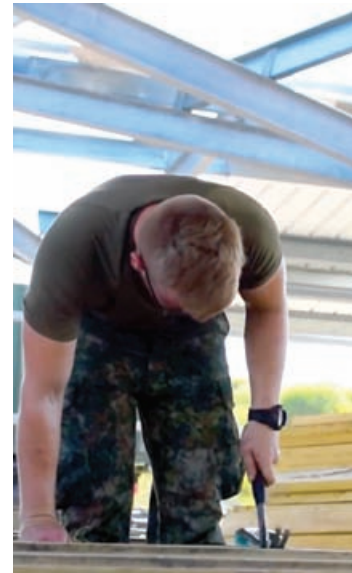
The Dutch military personnel of 105th Engineer Company will train their technical skills and teamwork in Curaçao and Aruba over the next few weeks. This annually scheduled exercise offers the engineers the opportunity to build and innovate under tropical conditions, putting their construction knowledge and skills to the test. During their stay in the Caribbean, they will work in various locations on technical projects that not only strengthen their own skills but also contribute to the community. During previous editions of Caribbean Engineer, the soldiers built a guard post for Carmabi at Shete Boka, a flamingo lookout tower in the Hermanus nature reserve, and they also rolled up their sleeves at the Colegio Chaya Willems school.

This year, the military personnel in Curaçao are help-



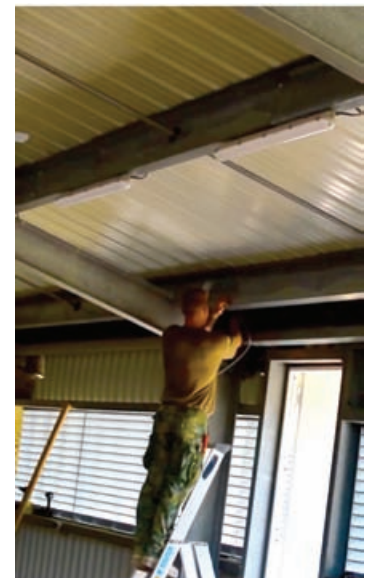
ing Fundashon Futuro Brillante build additional classrooms. They are extending a boat ramp at Parera Naval Base, renovating guard posts at Wacao,

and providing a canopy at the Daou shooting range so training can take place in all weather conditions. In Aruba, the engineers are working from the Savane-



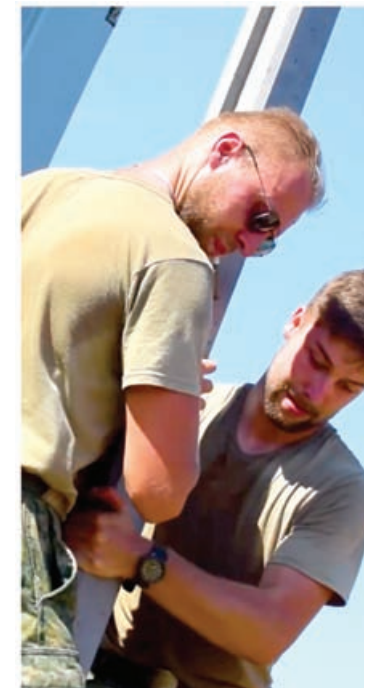
ta Marine Barracks. There, they are improving a jetty and dismantling a boat ramp, among other things. Installations at the barracks are also being renovated, using heavy-duty cranes.

In the coming weeks, the engineers in Curaçao and Aruba will be regularly seen with excavators, trucks, cranes, and shovels. These large and important pieces of equipment have been shipped from the Netherlands to the Caribbean so that the military can optimally perform their duties. Under tropical conditions, they will practice their skills, increase their deployability, and contribute to the infrastructure and the community, further strengthening the islands' safety and



resilience. □

Images are from Caribbean Engineer 2024.



Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Candelchi!

ORANJESTAD—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Candelchi" (Squirrelfish), a common, yet shy fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? The Department of Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, known as Santa Rosa, offers this informative article that illustrate some fish and their names in Papiamentu.

Candelchi, Squirrelfish, *Holocentrus adscensionis*:

Candelchi actually refers to the entire squirrelfish family or, as some say, when we say candelchi, we mean several different species but without distinguishing them by species. In this picture, we are showing the most common one in our waters, which is called squirrelfish in English or scientifically known as *Holocentrus adscensionis*.

Under candelchi, we in Aruba generally refer to all the different species of squirrelfish. They all look alike and it's really difficult to distinguish between them.

The squirrelfish family is distinguished by the following

characteristics. They are heart-shaped with pink or red hues and often show heart-shaped streaks between the scales along the body. They have hard fins and are always armed. Over at our sister island Curaçao, they are called "bari di clabo" (nail barrel) for that reason.

In our waters, there are 7 to 8 types or species present and they are sometimes caught and seen occasionally. They can be distinguished by different marks such as color on the dorsal spine or marks on the body.

In Aruba: Candelchi are found on



reefs or areas with structure in the water where they can hide. Although they prefer to hunt for food at night, they are also active during the day. They are edible and delicious when

prepared dry and crispy with lime. It is particularly challenging to scale the fish, which is why it is not one of the favorites among fishermen. They often live in groups. □





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Best spots to view the sunset

ORANJESTAD —What can be more romantic than surprising your partner with a date watching the sunset? Aruba's sunset leave many speechless, and luckily, the best spots to view the sunset are entirely accessible and easy to find. Here are some of the best places to view the sunset on the island.

California Light House

Of course, being one of the highest point easily accessible to locals and tourists, the California Light House hill not only offers a tremendous view of the sunset, but also a breath taking scenery of most of the island. In the distance you can spot all the hotels, the western shoreline and the wild waves that crash on the northern side of the island.

Manchebo & Eagle Beach Speaking of the western shoreline, the best spots for viewing the sunset on the beach has to be either Manchebo Beach or at Eagle Beach, which stretch along the entire western coast of the island starting from behind Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort up to the Amsterdam Manor roundabout. The sunset on these beaches is truly breathtaking; the sky and ocean look so big and spacious, and paired with the orange/pink hue of the sunset, the white sandy beaches and the soft sounds of waves crashing—it can only be described as an experience!*

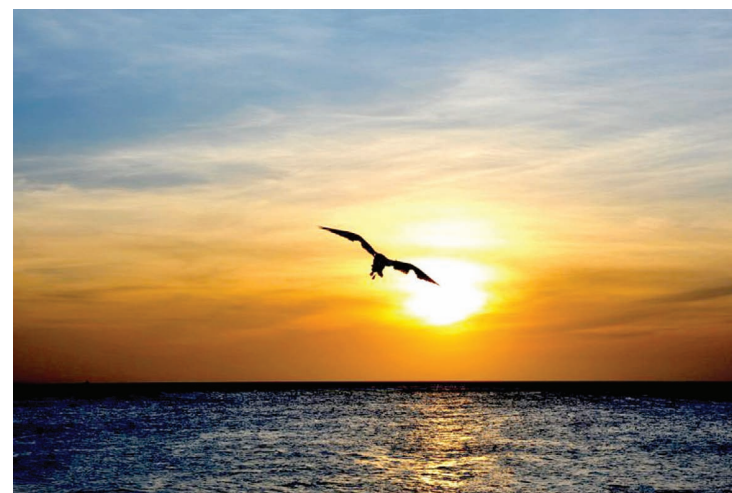
Arashi Beach

Another beach that has to be considered as another

great spot to view the sunset. Arashi Beach is the last beach you will find along the western coast line, just before you drive up the hill to the California Light House. A favorite for surfers and body boarders, the Arashi sky stretches out for miles, lending a spectacular canvas for the sun to create a masterpiece of orange, pink and purple hue.

Hooiberg Hill

These last two options are for more active couples. If you and your partner like to hike, the Hooiberg Hill may be a great place for you to get your daily workout in and enjoy a beautiful view of the sunset and the island as a little reward. Climb on top the 587-step stairs and reach the top to enjoy this



incredible scenery.

Casibari Rock Formation

If you're a rock climber, you might enjoy watching the sunset on top of the Casibari Rock Formation. It's no Yosemite, but it does offer a fun little exercise to get

to the top. But if you prefer not to get your hands a little dirty, you can always use the stairs in the back.

Editor's note: This spot may be my personal favorite, if you couldn't already tell...☐

Aruba to me: Carlos Montenegro

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting pho-

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For today we received a lovely message from Carlos Montenegro, from São Paulo, Brazil.

He wrote to us saying: "Aruba is a familiar island. I will always come back here."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers!☐





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Paseo Herencia; An exciting destination for leisure and entertainment



NOORD — Paseo Herencia, situated in the heart of Palm Beach and within walking distance from the high-rise hotels, beckons with a diverse array of shopping, dining, and entertainment options in an outdoor setting.

Shopping

Paseo Herencia presents a captivating selection of stores catering to various preferences, encompassing beachwear, apparel, fragrances, footwear, jewelry, keepsakes, and much more. Unwind at Maggy's, indulging in their salon services while exploring a range of beauty products. For a memorable gift crafted from natural ingredients, explore Aruba Aloe's offerings. Iconic brands like Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Aldo, Carmen Steffens, Nike, and Pandora stand among the favorites.

Dining

Embark on a global culinary journey at Paseo Herencia's diverse array of restaurants, each offering a unique dining experience. From the vibrant flavors of Iguana Cantina's Mexican cuisine to the Spanish elegance of Xixon Spanish Restaurant, the innovative fusion of Pizza and Sushi at Fusion Cuisine, the grilled delights of Skewers Grill, the comfort of The Lazy Turtle, the creativity at Drunk's Denial, and the seafood sensation of Sexy Shrimps Bar, and the familiar warmth of Starbucks, indulge in an unforgettable gastronomic adventure that spans the world's finest cuisines, all within the charming ambiance of our outdoor center.

VIP Cinema

Indulge in an unparalleled cinematic experience at Caribbean Cinemas VIP, nestled on Paseo Herencia's second floor. Relax in supremely comfortable reclining seats while enjoying movies on high-quality screens with state-of-the-art projection and 7.1 Dolby surround sound. Don't forget to relish the delectable buttery popcorn.

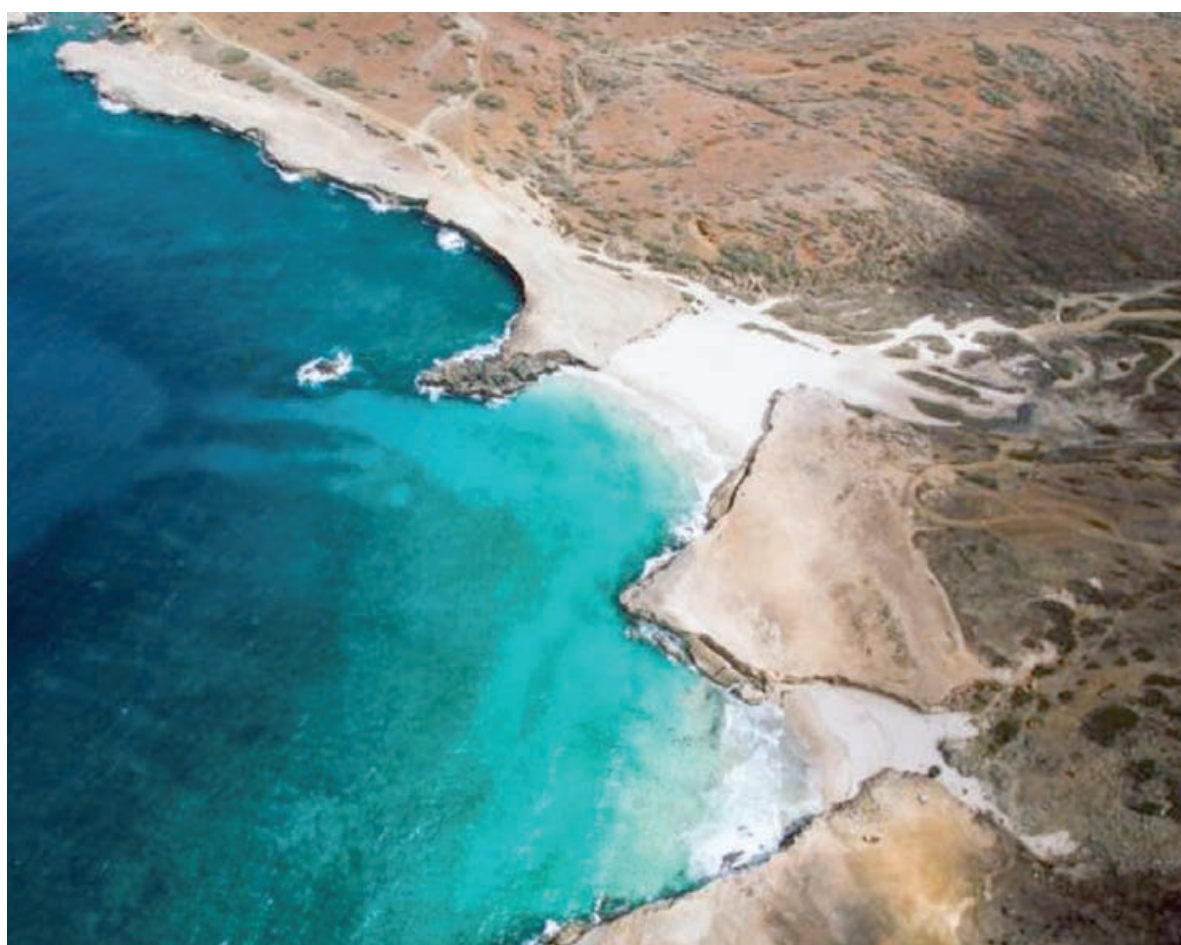
Entertainment

Paseo Herencia offers live entertainment from Sunday to Thursday at 8pm on the center stage, as well as captivating nightly watershows at 7:30pm, 8:30pm, and 9:30pm. Thrill-seekers can explore the Airsoft experience, located behind The Lazy Turtle. For picture-perfect moments, capture Instagram-worthy shots at the Angel Wings installation between Pandora and Free Spirit, or amidst the Flying mosaic hearts behind King Churros. There's more fun in store with delightful kids' activities, including a Kid's carousel and train ride, available every day from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Parking is complimentary for up to two hours when shopping, dining, or enjoying a movie at Paseo Herencia. Simply present your purchase receipt to the parking cashier. For more details on specials and events, visit the Paseo Herencia website at www.paseoherencia.com. □



Surf's Up: Favorite places to catch waves in Aruba



ORANJESTAD – Whether you are a salt-seasoned surfer looking for a thrill, or just looking to wet your toes in a little ocean adventure, Aruba has amazing places to learn and practice surfing! Although more known for the calmer waters of Palm Beach, Eagle Beach and Mangel Halto, Aruba also has some special places to thrill your senses.

Because of strong winds and breezes, Aruba is perfect for wind and kite surfing. You will surely notice kites in the air as you drive around the wilder, rougher areas on Aruba's east side.

There are plenty of surf shop rentals to help you with your gear, and there are also a lot of tutors if you're looking to try for the first time and need a little help. These can be found around the island, and will surely come in hand if you're wanting to try a new experience!

With that said, here are Aruba's favorite surf spots!

Andicuri

Andicuri is recognized as the best place for body boarding. Because of the rough waves, this beach is better suited for those with more experience in surfing. However, the beach with two bluffs – one on each side – is worth a visit, if only to watch the exciting show presented by the surfers.

To go to Andicuri, you will need a 4x4 vehicle and drive from the ex-Natural Bridge Center. Alternatively, you can make it an adventure by going on a hike! The scenery is unique and beautiful on its own. Reaching Andicuri Beach can be an adventure in itself, as it can be difficult to find and is only accessible by 4x4 vehicle or walking from the ex-Natural Bridge center, but the impressive scenery makes it all worthwhile!

Arashi

Arashi, a beach located close to the California Lighthouse, is a good spot for learning and having fun – if you're lucky! The waves at Arashi are usually calm, but with just the right weather, a swell forms attracting all the local surfers to the area.

Boca Grandi

Boca Grandi is at the most southern spot in Aruba, and is a popular spot with experienced surfers. Close to the famous Red Anchor and our beloved Sunrise City – San Nicolas, a trip to Boca Grandi can easily turn into an all-day trip to this area of the island. With a beautiful beach (although it is not allowed to swim here, because of strong currents), you can enjoy a relaxing time combing the beach for driftwood, coral, and little crabs and snails.

Hadicurari

Known locally as Fisherman's Hut, here is where you will find most of the action for surfers in Aruba. With a variety of surf shops and schools in this area, you will find it easy to get in on the action. Hadicurari is also the site of the Aruba Hi Winds World Challenge, which takes place usually in June/July, and it is the largest windsurfing competition in the Caribbean!

Malmok

If you're a beginner, this is your spot. There are also various shops to rent gear and receive lessons, facilitating learning and just trying out a new experience. The beach is also popular for paddleboarding and other watersport activities. □

Aruba: the legend behind its name

ORANJESTAD—Most folkloric tales and legends in Aruba revolve around our indigenous ancestors, who came from mainland Venezuela, and discovered the island and made it into their new home. This particular legend tells the story of the birth of the Aruba name.

The legend follows the life of Arua, an indigenous Cacique originally from Aroa in the Falcon state in Venezuela in the year 50 AD. Arua had a son around the year 70 AD with his wife Shira, who they named Corobori. When Corobori was old enough, he joined his father on the usual boat trip to the islands of Curaçao and Bonaire to gather salt.

On their way back to Mainland Venezuela, they were caught up in a heavy rain storm—a side effect from a passing, but far away, hurricane. Of course, because of the lack of motors and sail, their boat was left in the mercy of the heavy winds. After a while, the storm started to pass, and the clouds began to clear up. Finally able to see around them, the Cacique spotted land approximately an hour away. So, they started to row in that direction until they reached the coast.

Once they arrived on what they thought was Venezuela, they decided to stay the night and fix their kayak. The next morning, the Cacique ordered his son and a few warriors to go find any sign of population in the area: "Corobori," Arua said. "Don't come back without news. It's in your hands how long we stay here till we find our family. So, if you need to take a week to gather information, we will wait for you."

"Don't worry," Corobori replied. "As soon as we have any information, we will let you know." Armed with arrows and spears, backpacks filled with food and water containers, they set off. They climbed several small hills, but no sign of a village. They crossed different dry riverbeds, but no

sign of anything. When the sun finally descended, they found themselves near a fairly tall hill and decided to climb it for a better view of a village. This hill was called Pan Dushi or Orcuyo, which today we call Hooiberg.

The next morning, they could clearly see that they have landed on an island, but an unfamiliar one at that. When Corobori went back to where his father was waiting, he told him the news: "Father Arua, you have just discovered an island, but it is not Curaçao or Bonaire. Far in the south, we saw the big mountains of our homeland Venezuela, which we could have never seen on the other island. This leads us to believe we are on a new island. But that's not all. When the sun came up, we saw in the distance a glowing plain, which we think may be salt."

The Cacique was pleased to hear of his son's findings.

He decided to stay a couple days on the newly-discovered island in search for salt. The next morning they ascended Hooiberg again and stayed to see if they could find nearby smoke, indicating an inhabitant village. But they found nothing. So they went back to their initial arrival settlement, now known as Santo Largo in Savaneta. The next morning they hiked along the Spaans Lagoen near the Mangel Halto Beach and reached the area of Bushiri. There, they boarded their kayaks and heading to what we know now as Malmok, where they found rocks of salt. After a couple days of exploring the island and gathering some salt rocks, they left for Venezuela, where they were reunited with their families.

Throughout the year, they travelled back and forth to Aruba, collecting salt. After a while they settled on the island, generations of families living along the coast.

Corobori was the first indigenous inhabitant in our history to explore the entirety of the island.

Arua, after decades as the leader of his tribe, spent his last days on the island. Having reached 80 years old, he called for his family on his death bed. In his hammock, he said: "My children, many years have passed, and I've asked my warrior to bring me back to the island so I can laid to rest. The God of living has given me the gift of life to see my son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But now he is calling me home. Corobori, my torch is now passed to you. Guide our people, and be the leader you were always meant to become. If one day you leave my island, do not forget that it is also yours. This is my last wish: When I die, bury me in our maize plantation."

And so when the Cacique passed away, his wishes

were granted and he was laid to rest in the area we now know as the Paradera Cemetery. Where he used to live, they built the Paradera Church.

And that is the tale of what inspired the Aruba name. In the generations that lived or travelled back and forth to the island, there were many familiar names*, like Guadiriki, a warrior who was there when the island got discovered and his son, whom he called Huliba; Corobori and his children, Corodori, Camacuri and Turibana, Masiduri; and Malmok, the 13-year-old boy who alerted the Cacique when the Caribes attacked.

Familiar names: all these names are familiar to Arubans, as these are the names of places and plants on the island. □

Source: Un storia di e Indjan Arua (A story of the Indian Arua) by Adolf (Dufi) Kock



CROSSWORD

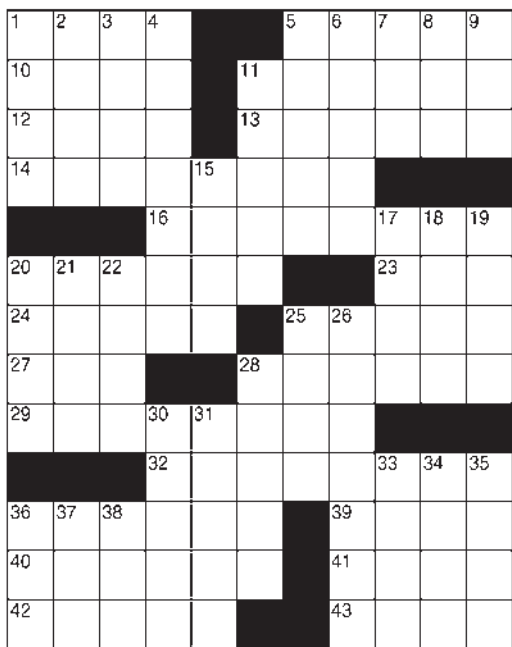
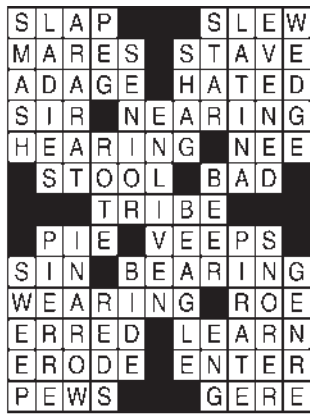
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Cushy
5 Square or circle
10 Manipulative one
11 Outcry
12 Singer Fitzgerald
13 1966 Paul Newman film
14 NFL team
16 NFL team
20 Phone feature
23 Suffer
24 Burglar's bane
25 Cut's counterpart
27 Cooking need
28 Under arrest
29 NFL team
32 NFL team
36 Looks forward to
39 Pump, e.g.
40 Like some fog
41 Shower square
42 Make blank
43 Auction cry

DOWN

- 1 Took to court
2 Capital on a fjord
3 Plummeted
4 Fur trader
5 Bias
6 Draconian
7 Band blaster
8 "Tamerlane"
9 Mess up
11 Panda's home
15 Injure
17 Compass point
18 Solemn act
19 Iditarod item
20 Tube tops
21 Bunches
22 Deck worker
25 Contented sound
26 Lends a hand
28 Ross of flag fame
30 Sprawling tales
31 Turning tool
33 Canton's state
34 Bridge fee
35 Canary snack
36 King Kong, e.g.
37 Fighting
38 One — time



9-21

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-21

CRYPTOQUOTE

F W B L U I W O P W F V U O W L
W P B X U O S F U L K S Z V G X W
K Y Z Z N ; F W B W O P W F V U O W L
W P B X U O K Y Z Z N S Z V G X W
S F U L . — W S Z E W L V Z P I Y Z
M P Z W I

Cryptoquote: WHEN WORDS
BECOME UNCLEAR, I SHALL FOCUS WITH
PHOTOGRAPHS. — ANSEL ADAMS

Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 16 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL MAGIC	09.00	22.00	C	1
		ISLAND PRINCESS	09.00	21.00	B	1
		FREEWINDS	10.00	****	E	1
WED	24	OASIS OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	I	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
SUN	28	GRAND PRINCESS	09.00	17.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	30	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



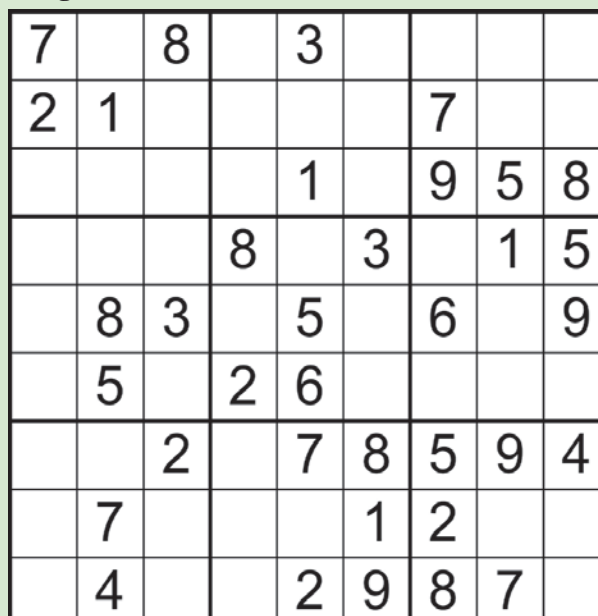
Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★

9/16

Answer to previous puzzle

7	3	4	8	2	9	1	5	6
2	1	9	5	4	6	8	3	7
8	5	6	3	1	7	9	4	2
6	8	3	2	9	4	5	7	1
4	7	5	1	6	3	2	8	9
9	2	1	7	5	8	4	6	3
3	9	2	6	8	5	7	1	4
5	4	7	9	3	1	6	2	8
1	6	8	4	7	2	3	9	5

Difficulty: ★

9/15

Researchers solve decades-old color mystery in iconic Jackson Pollock painting

By ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN
AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists have identified the origins of the blue color in one of Jackson Pollock's paintings with a little help from chemistry, confirming for the first time that the abstract expressionist used a vibrant, synthetic pigment known as manganese blue.

"Number 1A, 1948," showcases Pollock's classic style: paint has been dripped and splattered across the canvas, creating a vivid, multicolored work. Pollock even gave the piece a personal touch, adding his handprints near the top.

The painting, currently on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, is almost 9 feet (2.7 meters) wide. Scientists had previously characterized the reds and yellows splattered across the canvas, but the source of the rich turquoise blue proved elusive.

In a new study, researchers took scrapings of the blue paint and used lasers to scatter light and measure how the paint's molecules vibrated. That gave them a unique chemical fingerprint for the color, which they pinpointed as manganese blue.

The analysis, published Monday in the journal *Proceedings of the National*



David Brenneman, director of collections and exhibitions at the High Museum, talks about Jackson Pollock's painting "Number 1A" on display as part of an exhibit in Atlanta, on Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011.

Associated Press

Academy of Sciences, is the first confirmed evidence of Pollock using this specific blue.

"It's really interesting to understand where some striking color comes from on a molecular level," said study co-author Edward Solomon with Stanford University. The pigment manganese blue was once used by artists, as well as to color the cement for swimming pools. It was phased out by the 1990s because of environmental concerns.

Previous research had suggested that the turquoise from the painting could indeed be this color, but the new study confirms it using samples from the canvas, said Rutgers University's Gene Hall. □

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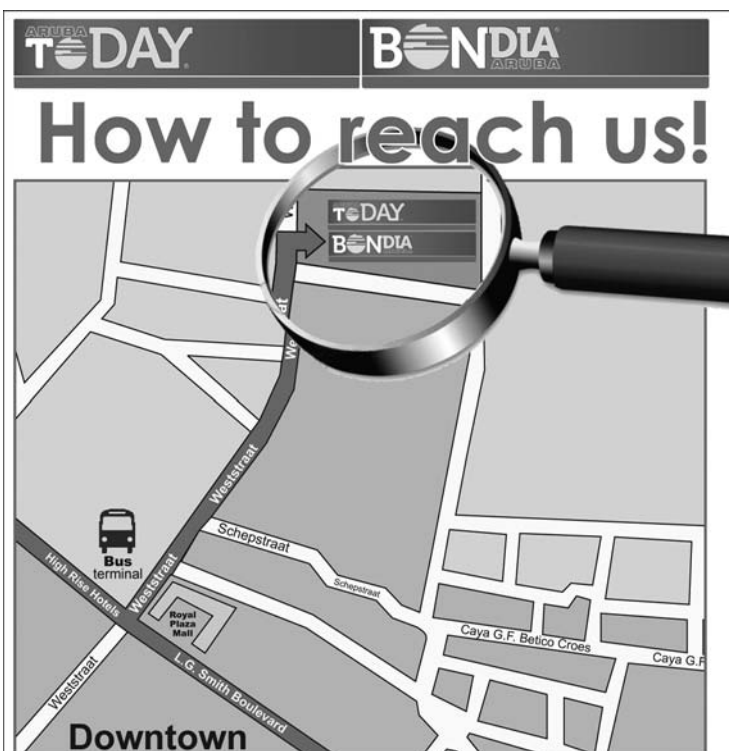
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS



U.S. and China reach a framework deal on TikTok

By JOSH BOAK, SUMAN NA-ISHADHAM and DIDI TANG
Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — A framework deal has been reached between China and the U.S. for the ownership of popular social video platform TikTok, U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said after weekend trade talks in Spain.

Bessent said in a press conference after the latest round of trade talks between the world's two largest economies concluded in Madrid that U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese Premier Xi Jinping would speak Friday to possibly finalize the deal. He said the objective was to switch to U.S. ownership from China's ByteDance.

"We are not going to talk about the commercial terms of the deal," Bessent said. "It's between two private parties. But the commercial terms have been agreed upon."

Li Chenggang, China's international trade representative, told reporters the sides have reached "basic framework consensus" to resolve TikTok-related issues in a cooperative way, reduce investment barriers and promote related economic and trade coopera-



The TikTok Inc. building is seen in Culver City, Calif., March 17, 2023.

Associated Press

tion.

The meeting in Madrid is the fourth round of trade talks between U.S. and Chinese officials since Trump launched a tariff war on Chinese goods in April. A fifth round of negotiations is likely to happen "in the coming weeks," Bessent said, with both governments planning for a possible summit between Trump and Xi later this year

or early next year to solidify a trade agreement.

However, nothing has been confirmed, and analysts say possible trade bumps could delay the visit.

Why a TikTok deal is needed In Madrid, U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said the team was "very focused on TikTok and making sure that it was a deal that is fair for the Chinese" but also "completely re-

spects U.S. national security concerns."

Wang Jingtao, deputy director of China's Central Cyberspace Affairs Commission, told reporters in Madrid there was consensus on authorization of "the use of intellectual property rights such as (TikTok's) algorithm" a main sticking point in the deal.

The sides also agreed on entrusting a partner with

handling U.S. user data and content security, he said.

During Joe Biden's Democratic presidency, Congress and the White House used national security grounds to approve a U.S. ban on TikTok unless its Chinese parent company sold its controlling stake.

U.S. officials were concerned about ByteDance's roots and ownership, pointing to laws in China that require Chinese companies to hand over data requested by the government. Another concern became the proprietary algorithm that populates what users see on the app.

Trump, a Republican, has repeatedly extended the deadline for shutting down TikTok. The current extension expires Wednesday, two days before Trump and Xi are scheduled to discuss the final details of the framework deal.

Although Trump hasn't addressed the forthcoming deadline directly, he has claimed that he can delay the ban indefinitely.

Wendy Cutler, senior vice president at the Asia Society Policy Institute, said it appears that "both sides have found a way forward to transfer ownership to a U.S. company." □

Google's top AI scientist says 'learning how to learn' will be next generation's most needed skill

By DEREK GATOPOULOS
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — A

top Google scientist and 2024 Nobel laureate said Friday that the most impor-

tant skill for the next generation will be "learning how to learn" to keep pace with change as Artificial Intelligence transforms education and the workplace. Speaking at an ancient Roman theater at the foot of the Acropolis in Athens, Demis Hassabis, CEO of Google's DeepMind, said rapid technological change demands a new approach to learning and skill development.

"It's very hard to predict the future, like 10 years from now, in normal cases. It's even harder today, given how fast AI is changing, even week by week," Hassabis told the audience. "The only thing you can say for certain is that huge

change is coming."

The neuroscientist and former chess prodigy said artificial general intelligence a futuristic vision of machines that are as broadly smart as humans or at least can do many things as well as people can could arrive within a decade. This, he said, will bring dramatic advances and a possible future of "radical abundance" despite acknowledged risks.

Hassabis emphasized the need for "meta-skills," such as understanding how to learn and optimizing one's approach to new subjects, alongside traditional disciplines like math, science and humanities. "One thing we'll know for sure is you're

going to have to continually learn ... throughout your career," he said.

The DeepMind co-founder, who established the London-based research lab in 2010 before Google acquired it four years later, shared the 2024 Nobel Prize in chemistry for developing AI systems that accurately predict protein folding a breakthrough for medicine and drug discovery.

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis joined Hassabis at the Athens event after discussing ways to expand AI use in government services. Mitsotakis warned that the continued growth of huge tech companies could create great global financial inequality. □



Greece's Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, left, and Demis Hassabis, CEO of Google's artificial intelligence research company DeepMind discuss the future of AI, ethics and democracy during an event at the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, in Athens, Greece, Friday, Sept. 12, 2025.

Associated Press

Elena Delle Donne takes on new role as USA Basketball's first 3-on-3 women's hoops managing director

By **DOUG FEINBERG**
AP Basketball Writer

Elena Delle Donne has always been intrigued by 3-on-3 basketball since the sport entered Olympic play in 2021.

Now she'll get the chance to lead it, serving as USA Basketball's first managing director of the 3-on-3 women's national team.

"USA Basketball has been family ever since I started playing with them and then I started watching 3x3 and was captivated by it," she said in a phone interview. "How quick the game was, the type of player it takes and the versatility and positionless basketball that I would have loved to play. That was where my interest began with it."

She spent the last few months learning about the sport, going to a training camp in Phoenix and then taking in a tournament in Edmonton, Canada. That's when she got hooked by it. "I would have loved to play it," she said. "It's my type of game with the versatility of it. I would have fit well. Now I know what I'm looking for in different players."

"From being an Olympic



United States' Elena Delle Donne (11) celebrates a score against France during a women's semifinal round basketball game at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Thursday, Aug. 18, 2016.

and World Cup gold medalist to WNBA champion, MVP and seven-time WNBA All-Star, Elena brings an impressive basketball pedigree to this role," USA Basketball CEO Jim Tooley said. "Elena has been a member of the USA Basketball family for almost 15 years. Her wealth of knowledge of the sport of basketball and

our organization will be an asset as we continue our journey to the Los Angeles Olympic Games in 2028." Delle Donne announced her retirement back in April and currently serves as a special advisor to Monumental Basketball, the parent company of the Washington Mystics. Never one to be content, Delle Donne

enjoys the new challenge. The U.S. won a bronze medal in the Paris Olympics last year in 3-on-3 after winning a gold in the inaugural Tokyo Games. Her first job will be to put together a squad for the AmeriCup that takes place around Thanksgiving. "That will be my first go at picking a team and

coach," she said. "The nice part is I will get (WNBA) players in that one since the season will be finished. From there continuing to put different people in the tournaments, especially college players."

The 3-on-3 game is different as players need to earn points to qualify to play in the Olympics. Delle Donne can't just take the best three available players; the qualification system requires athletes to compete in tournaments around the world. "That's something that the public probably doesn't know and I didn't know either," she said of the qualifying system. "It is such a different game. Strategy can be different, players have to coach themselves when they are out there." Delle Donne has been involved with USA Basketball since 2011 and helped the Americans win a gold medal in 5-on-5 at the 2016 Olympics in Rio. While saying it would be hard to pick a dream 3-on-3 team, she would have loved to see a squad with Diana Taurasi, Maya Moore and Breanna Stewart, as well as Angel McCoughtry. □

Associated Press

Garrett Crochet comes up big to help the Red Sox salvage series finale against Yankees

By **KEN POWTAK**
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Red Sox went out and picked up Garrett Crochet for a game like this.

Facing the rival New York Yankees in a race for the AL's top wild-card spot, Crochet was given a big first-inning lead and matched his season high with 12 strikeouts over six innings in Boston's 6-4 victory Sunday night that salvaged the finale of a three-game series.

"We already talked about it being a must-win game, just trying to do everything I could," said Crochet, who is 16-5 with a 2.63 ERA. "We were just trying to re-right the ship. The offense came out big early and I was trying to do my best to main-

tain the lead."

The Red Sox acquired the 26-year-old left-hander in a trade with the Chicago White Sox during the off-season. Then, they didn't

wait very long to lock him up, signing him to a \$170 million, six-year deal during the first week of the season. The contract starts next season.



Boston Red Sox pitcher Garrett Crochet throws during a baseball game against the New York Yankees, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, in Boston.

Associated Press

The Red Sox are 1 1/2 games behind the Yankees, who hold the top wild-card slot. Boston is second. The top wild-card team hosts the runner-up in a three-game series.

On Sunday, Boston came out and scored six runs in the bottom of the first after Crochet fanned two in a 1-2-3 top half.

"It was huge. He set the tone early there in the top of the first," Red Sox shortstop Trevor Story said. "To put up a six-spot, it felt like a million with Crochet going."

Red Sox manager Alex Cora said the team managed Crochet's workload after the All-Star break so his big lefty would have more down the stretch.

"For all those questions

about workload and (velocity) down, I think the last (pitch) was 99 mph." Cora said. "We took care of him to take care of us. Hopefully the rest of the month and the next one he's a huge part of it."

Crochet knows his team is counting on him.

"Especially as we're nearing the end here, I don't want to have any regret on my mind here in the next couple of weeks," he said. "Just trying to do everything I can to put us in a good spot."

Asked what he thought it would be like to face the Yankees in the postseason, Crochet said: "It would be cool because it means we're in the postseason. I think that's the main focus." □

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Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts (1) gets a push from behind from Philadelphia Eagles tight end Grant Calcaterra (81) against the Kansas City Chiefs in the second half during an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, in Kansas City, Mo.

Associated Press

Problems officiating the tush push could be the new argument to support banning it

By **ROB MAADDI**
AP Pro Football Writer

The Super Bowl rematch turned into bully ball highlighted by the NFL's ugliest play. Jalen Hurts, Saquon Barkley and the Philadelphia Eagles pushed literally their way past Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs, 20-17, on Sunday. Hurts scored a touchdown on a tush push and the Eagles used the play seven times to help hand the Chiefs their first three-game losing streak with Mahomes and send them to their first 0-2 start since 2014. The NFL tried to ban the tush push following a proposal from the Green Bay Packers in the offseason but fell two votes short of eliminating it. Those who oppose the play must've cringed watching the Eagles use it repeatedly in front of a national television audience. There's no doubt many of the decision-makers noticed. Tom Brady pointed out that two of Phila-

delphia's offensive linemen moved early when Hurts was pushed into the end zone for a 20-10 lead midway through the fourth quarter. Replays showed the Eagles got away with a false start. After Hurts appeared to lose the ball but was ruled down to gain a first down on the play in the final two minutes, Fox rules analyst Dean Blandino said: "I am done with the tush push, guys. It's a hard play to officiate." While there was plenty of scoring and exciting action around the league in Week 2 the Cowboys beat the Giants 40-37 in overtime in a thrilling, back-and-forth matchup the tush push became a main topic of conversation during the NFL's game of the week. Sure, there was plenty of talk about Kansas City's early season struggles, Andy Reid's out-of-sync offense and Travis Kelce not being on the same page with Mahomes. □

Marathon at worlds takes weird twists: a false start, a near wrong turn and, finally, a photo finish

By **EDDIE PELLIS**
AP National Writer

TOKYO (AP) — They ran for more than two hours and needed a photo finish to determine the winner. Alphonce Simbu of Tanzania edged out Amanuel Petros in a wild men's marathon at world championships Monday.

It was a 26.2-mile (42.195-kilometer) race through the streets of Tokyo that began with a false start and ended with a sprint down the homestretch of the track — but only after Simbu nearly missed the turn into the stadium. "I have never seen something like this in a marathon," said Petros, after getting nudged out despite lunging and tumbling over the finish line. "It's like the 100 meters."

Closer, in fact.

The difference in the men's marathon was 0.03 seconds.

The differences in the men's and women's 100-meter races Sunday night: .05 and .15 seconds.

It marked the second straight day a marathon was decided with an all-out sprint to the line. The day before, Peres Jepchirchir won the women's race by .2 seconds. This men's race included a jump of the gun by Vincent Ngetich of Kenya that forced race officials to call the runners back after about 100 meters. □



Tanzania's Alphonce Felix Simbu poses after winning the gold medal in the men's marathon ahead of Germany's Amanuel Petros at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Monday, Sept. 15, 2025.

Associated Press